

Product Progress Assessment

As of March 26th, 2018, I have logged 21 hours for my final product and I have completed a major part of it. Originally, I was planning on working on a consistent project for the "Saving Hearts" Peru medical mission trip at Baylor, but when my mentor and I found out that the departure date was almost 3 months earlier than we expected, I had to break up my product into two parts: one to be finished before the trip and one to be finished after the trip.

What I have completed as of right now are the two patient education packets on coronary artery bypass surgery and valve (both mitral and aortic) replacement surgery. The Patient education packets were designed to offer easy-access to important after-care information that many of the patients would not have had originally. I made an English version first and then translated it to Spanish so that it could be understood by many of patients and families of the patients in Peru. In the packets I included heart health 101, information on the different heart valves, background for valvular and coronary artery disease, an exercise regimen, cautionary tips, advice on resuming activities, a suggested diet, incision care, common post-operative guidelines, and information on recovery after open heart surgery. I am very happy with the finished product and I believe my mentor and the surgeons I was emailing were too.

One of the main successes so far in my final product journey has been being able to put a cohesive, nearly flawless, and detailed product together on time. My mentor was able to print lots of copies and make sure that the trip volunteers got them a couple days before the departure so there was no last minute rush. I got back very positive feedback for my contributions to the project so I am very happy to have been able to help.

I am not quite sure what there is left to do because the original plan has been altered a lot to fit the drastic schedule changes. I don't know if I will continue to work with the surgeons on the Peru trip or if my mentor will give me a whole new project that will still enhance my educational experience. Either way, I am excited to see what my next mentor visit has in store for me and what else I will do in the coming final couple of months of ISM.

My mentor and her team have been very helpful in beginning and completing my final product so far. If it were not for their willingness to help me narrow down my final product ideas and to teach me about the background needed to make the most out of this project, I would not have been able to complete what I did. Even though what I have completed now is not what I had originally envisioned, the experience that I had in developing my product and the conversations that I had with multiple professionals, in person and electronically, has made this a once in a lifetime opportunity. From Mrs. Watson sitting down with me and breaking down the infrastructure of a hospital to Mrs.

Huff setting me up in an email conversation with Dr. Patel and Dr. Anonetapiat, I have been able to have the best instruction and I am extremely grateful for everyone that has been willing to aid me in this process.